TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 3015 - SB 2928

February 15, 2010

SUMMARY OF BILL: For injuries occurring after July 1, 2010, establishes a date for maximum medical improvement (MMI) in cases involving pain management treatment. An employee is presumed to be at MMI upon determination by the treating physician or at 52 weeks after the employee reached MMI on the injury that caused the need for pain management, whichever is earlier.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Decrease State Expenditures - \$137,100/Risk Management Fund

Assumptions:

- According to the Department of Treasury, there are approximately 150 injured state employees currently in a pain management program. Approximately 10 percent of those, or 15, have been in the program for longer than 52 weeks after the MMI date for the injury. The average length of time in excess of 52 weeks is 26 weeks.
- The average workers' compensation weekly rate is \$351.66.
- Wages will stay constant in subsequent years.
- Based on information provided by the Department of Treasury, state expenditures will decrease by \$137,147 (15 employees x 26 weeks x \$351.66) each year from the Risk Management Fund.
- According to the Department of Labor and Workforce Development and the Department of Commerce and Insurance, this bill will have no fiscal impact on the Departments.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director